



Investigative Labs Guidelines



Step 1: Create a Question

- What do you want to find out?
- Does your question relate to the topic?
- Can you develop an experiment to answer your question?
- Does your question make sense? Is it confusing?

Step 2: Develop a Hypothesis

- What do you think will happen?
- BE SPECIFIC!
- If, then statement; using the variables in the hypothesis

Step 3: Procedure

- What steps will you follow to find an answer?
 - BE SPECIFIC! Label your steps using 1, 2, 3, etc...
 - Would someone else be able to follow your directions?
- How will you collect your data? Design a table to record your information
- How will you ensure reliable results? Controls, One variable
- What safety issues need to be addressed?

Step 4: Experiment and Data

- Be sure to display your data in an organized manner. Use a data table
- Include enough data to prove or disprove your hypothesis
- Create the appropriate graph from the data. Labeled & Titled appropriately.

Step 5: Analysis/Conclusion

- What happened during your experiment?
- Did your results support your hypothesis?
- Write a summary of what you learned during your experiment using your results.
- Explain any unexpected results.
- Are your results reliable? Any sources of error?
- Did you use complete sentences?